

Mr. Rose. You said computerized plan—

The President. No, I meant cars. You want me to say it again?

Mr. Rose. How much time do we have?

The President. I just misspoke myself.

Mr. Rose. How much time do we have here?

The President. I don't know, 10 minutes, 5 minutes?

You want to do that again?

Mr. Rose. The last question? All right. Okay.

Think about the future of your grandchildren, Chelsea's children, the year 2050. What will life be like then? What kind of food; what kind of transportation; will we be living on other planets? Will we still be concerned about things that concern us now, like overweight, stuff like that?

The President. I don't think all of the problems will go away. I think the food will be pretty much like it is now, but even safer. I think that on Earth, we'll travel in automobiles, still, but in traffic jams, we'll have automated systems. I think there will be a lot more high speed rail. I think we'll travel in ways that give us more free time to do things while we travel.

I think that there will be large platforms in outer space that will be jumping-off places to distant planets, and I think that the biomedical advances will be stunning. I think a lot of cancers will be cured. I think there will be a vaccine for AIDS. I think that the research in the human gene and the revolution, the continuing revolution in microchips will enable people to probably cure spinal cord injuries by having a programmed chip that goes into the spine and replicates all the nerves that were damaged.

I think that it'll be a fascinating time. And I think there will be lots and lots of continuous daily communication with people across national and cultural lines.

Mr. Rose. Would you go to space if you had the opportunity?

The President. I might. I'm real interested in it. I like it a lot. I think it's important.

Post-Presidential Plans

Mr. Rose. What one thing do you most want to accomplish—I've got to go—when

you leave this office? What's the single most important thing for you to accomplish when you leave?

The President. You mean, after I'm not President anymore?

Mr. Rose. After you're not President.

The President. I think the most important thing is for me to be a useful citizen of this country and of this world, because I've had opportunities here only my other living predecessors have had. And I think that for me to be able to continue the work I've done in racial and religious and ethnic reconciliation and trying to convince people that we can grow the global economy and still preserve the environment and trying to empower the poor and the dispossessed, in trying to spread the universal impact of education and use technology to benefit ordinary people, these kinds of things—I think I should continue to do this work and trying—I want to get young people into public service. I want them to believe this is noble and important work.

So I think, in a word, I have to be a good citizen now. That's the most important thing I can do when I leave office is to use the maximum—to the maximum extent I can, the knowledge that I have, the experience that I've gained to be a really good citizen.

Mr. Rose. Thank you, Mr. President.

The President. Thank you.

NOTE: The interview was videotaped at 5:10 p.m. on December 22 in the Oval Office for later broadcast, and the transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on December 28. A portion of this interview could not be verified because the tape was incomplete. The text of this interview follows the transcript as released by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Statement Announcing Zero Tolerance for Prescription Drug Internet Sites Harmful to Patient Safety and Health

December 28, 1999

Prescription drug sites on the Internet have given consumers new options to obtain needed medications, sometimes at a more affordable price. This industry is in its infancy, however, and rogue operators pose a threat

to the health of Americans. Today we are unveiling a proposal that sends a signal that we have zero tolerance for prescription drug Internet sites that ignore Federal and State laws and harm patient safety and health. Dispensing medications through the Internet without prescriptions or licenses must stop.

Statement on Fiscal Year 2001 Housing Vouchers

December 29, 1999

I am pleased to announce that my budget for FY 2001 will include \$690 million for 120,000 new housing vouchers to help America's hard-pressed working families. These housing vouchers subsidize the rents of low income Americans, helping them to move closer to job opportunities. Housing vouchers are a critical part of my administration's efforts to reform welfare, reward work, support working families, and provide affordable housing for low income families.

In today's booming economy, about two-thirds of new jobs are being created in the suburbs—far from where many low income families live. These new housing vouchers will enable families to move closer to a new job, reduce a long commute, or secure more stable housing that will help them get or keep a job. We should use 32,000 of the 120,000 new housing vouchers to help families moving from welfare to work and to use 18,000 vouchers to help homeless individuals and families secure permanent housing.

Last year we worked with Congress to secure 50,000 housing vouchers, the first in 4 years. This November we fought hard to provide 60,000 additional vouchers for hard-pressed working families in the final FY 2000 budget agreement—after having been eliminated by both the House and Senate bills. As we work on the next budget, I urge Congress to join me in a bipartisan effort to fund new housing vouchers that will make housing more affordable for more working Americans.

Letter to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations Reporting on a Declaration of the Venezuela-United States Tax Convention

December 29, 1999

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In accordance with the resolution of advice and consent to ratification of the Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Venezuela for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, together with a Protocol, adopted by the Senate of the United States on November 5, 1999, I hereby certify that:

In connection with Declaration (1), New Venezuelan Tax Law:

- (i) the new Venezuelan tax law has been enacted in accordance with Venezuelan law;
- (ii) the Department of Treasury, in consultation with the Department of State, has thoroughly examined the new Venezuelan tax law; and
- (iii) the new Venezuelan tax law is fully consistent with and appropriate to the obligations under the Convention.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: The letter was sent to Jesse Helms, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on December 30.

Message on the Observance of a New Millennium

December 30, 1999

Warm greetings to all Americans as we welcome a new century and a new millennium. This rare moment in our history is a time for hope and reflection, a time to recognize both the challenges and the opportunities that will face us in the coming years.

We have much to celebrate on this wonderful occasion and many reasons to be